

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 29 and 35 are allowed and claims 25 and 26 stand objected to but would be allowable if rewritten into independent form.

Claims 31, 32 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for depending from cancelled claims. Applicants appreciate the Office Action pointing out this typographical error, and claims 31, 32 and 36 have been amended to depend from currently pending claims.

Claims 21-24, 27 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Essery (U.S. Pat. No. 2,134,865).

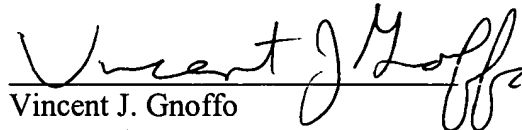
Claim 21 was amended to include the allowable feature of claim 25, and claim 25 was canceled. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claim 21 be withdrawn. Since claims 22-24, 27 and 28 depend from claim 21 as amended, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to these claims also be withdrawn.

Claims 21-24, 27 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doughtty (U.S. Pat. No. 1,778,248).

Claim 21 was amended to include the allowable feature of claim 25, and claim 25 was canceled. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claim 21 be withdrawn. Since claims 22-24, 27 and 28 depend from claim 21 as amended, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to these claims also be withdrawn.

For all of the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number if there are any outstanding issues that could be resolved through a telephone conference.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent J. Gnoffo", written over a horizontal line.

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